

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE LOCATION, DESIGN, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
ASPECTS AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF US HIGHWAY 18/151 BETWEEN COUNTY PD
AND US 12 AND OF US HIGHWAY 12/14 BETWEEN US 14 AND TODD DRIVE
DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are advised that the Wisconsin Department of Transportation will hold two (2) public hearings as provided by law to consider the location, design, and environmental aspects of the proposed improvement of US Highway 18/151 (Verona Road) and US Highway 12/14 (Beltline Highway).

US 151 (Verona Road) is a principle arterial that serves movements to and from southwestern Wisconsin. It is classified as a Backbone Route in the Corridors 2020 state highway plan. This 2 mile section of US 151 is the only urbanized roadway portion of the Backbone corridor spanning from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin to Dubuque, Iowa. The Beltline, or US 12/14, is a primary arterial that serves the expanding Madison metropolitan area. US 12/14 is classified as a Connector Route in the state highway plan. The growing Madison metropolitan area and associated traffic volumes are causing increasing congestion on US 151 and on US 12/14. This project seeks to: 1) enhance mobility of motorized travel in the US 151 backbone corridor to operation levels that are consistent with a Corridors 2020 Backbone Route; 2) preserve the mobility of motorized travel in the US 12/14 corridor to levels that are consistent with a Corridors 2020 Connector Route; and 3) enhance nonmotorized travel accommodations and connectivity in both the US 151 and the US 12/14 corridors.

The study is focusing on long-term improvements that will serve this portion of the Madison metropolitan area and the state backbone system for decades. No improvements will be constructed until 2009 or later. The study area for the project is separated into 2 focus areas. The first focus area segment is the US 151 corridor that centers on the Verona Road interchange and Verona Road south to County Highway PD. The build alternatives for this focus area may result in approximately 10 to 22 acres of acquired right-of-way including approximately 20 to 45 residential relocations and approximately 5 to 35 business relocations. The second focus area centers on US 12/14 (West Beltline) from the US 14 (University Avenue) interchange to the Todd Drive interchange. The build alternatives for this focus area may result in approximately 2 to 15 acres of acquired right-of-way including approximately 0 to 8 commercial relocations.

Further information concerning the proposed improvement is available for inspection and copying at the Department's District Office in Madison, Wisconsin at the address given below.

The two (2) public hearings will convene at:

- 6:00 P.M. on Monday, May 17, 2004 at Toki Middle School at 5606 Russett Road
- 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at Head Start at 2096 Red Arrow Trail

As an informational service, staff engineers will be present at Toki Middle School from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. on the evening of the first hearing and at Head Start from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. on the evening of the second hearing for informal discussion of the proposal. Exhibits of the proposal will be on display and a statement about the proposed improvement will be available for review.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearings and to present relevant oral and/or written testimony concerning the general location aspects of the proposed improvement; the social, economic, and environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvement; and

whether the improvement is or is not in the public interest and consistent with the goals and objectives of area planning.

Land acquisition and schedules for construction will be discussed at the public hearings. Relocation assistance will also be discussed. It is anticipated that the relocation of persons, businesses, and non-profit organizations will occur as a result of the proposed improvement. Any person who feels that he or she may be thus affected by the proposed improvement may obtain relocation assistance information at the Department's Madison District Real Estate Office, 608-246-3827.

Provisions have been made for the submission of written statements or other exhibits in place of or in addition to the testimony presented at the public hearings. This additional testimony will be included in the hearing transcript if postmarked not later than May 28, 2004. Mail this additional testimony to Ms. Rose Phetteplace, District Director, ATTN: Mr. John J. Steiner, Project Manager, District #1 Office, at the address given below.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are further notified of the availability of a draft statement that evaluates the proposal's environmental impacts and effects which has been filed according to the State and National Environmental Policy Acts. Copies of this Draft Environmental Impact Statement are available for inspection and copying at the following locations (unless otherwise noted, locations are in Madison):

District #1 Office
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
2101 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53704

Bureau of Equity and Environmental Services
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 451
Madison, WI 53707-7965

Madison Public Libraries
Central Library
201 W Mifflin St
Alicia Ashman Branch
733 N High Point Rd
Meadowridge Branch
5740 Raymond Rd
Monroe Street Branch
1705 Monroe St
Sequoia Branch
513 S Midvale Blvd
South Madison Branch
2222 S Park St
McFarland Public Library
5114 Farwell St
McFarland, WI 53558
Middleton Public Library
7425 Hubbard Ave
Middleton, WI 53562
Monona Public Library
1000 Nichols Rd
Monona, WI 53716
Verona Public Library
130 N Franklin St
Verona, WI 53593

Dane County Clerk
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Dunn Town Clerk
4156 County Road B, McFarland, WI 53558
Fitchburg City Clerk
5520 Lacy Rd
Madison City Clerk
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Madison Town Clerk
2120 Fish Hatchery Rd
McFarland Village Clerk
5915 Milwaukee St
McFarland, WI 53558
Middleton City Clerk
7426 Hubbard Ave
Middleton, WI 53562
Middleton Town Clerk
7555 W Old Sauk Rd
Verona, WI 53593
Verona City Clerk
111 Lincoln St
Verona, WI 53593
Verona Town Clerk
335 N Nine Mound Rd
Verona, WI 53593

Individual copies of the draft document may be purchased by writing Tory Keyzer at Strand Associates, Inc., 910 West Wingra Drive, Madison, WI 53715. Printed copies of the draft document are \$25 and electronic copies (on CD) are \$4.

Comments regarding the environmental impacts and effects of the proposed improvement will be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement if postmarked not later than June 8, 2004. Mail to Ms. Rose Phetteplace, District Director, ATTN: Mr. John J. Steiner, Project Manager, District #1 Office at the address given above.

Persons with an interest in, or knowledge about historical and archaeological resources in the project area are invited to present such information at the public hearing.

The Department of Transportation will review all comments and testimony presented and reserves the right to make a final determination upon the proposal as described in this notice.

Note: The hearing sites are wheelchair accessible. Also, if you are hearing impaired and require an interpreter, one will be provided if you contact John Steiner on or before May 10 at our TDD number, 608-261-8200. This number is available Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Calls can also be placed through the Wisconsin Telecommunications Relay System at 1-800-947-3529.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION DISTRICTS

Project I.D. 1206-07-03